

The Spartan.

SPARTANBURG:

THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 1857.

CELEBRATION AT LESTER.

The attention of contractors is invited to the advertisement extending the time within which proposals will be received for the erection of the new building at Cedar Spring Asylum.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL CELEBRATION.

The several Sunday Schools of the village, we understand, have united in preparation for a Union Celebration, adjacent to the town, on the 4th of July.

VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL CONCERT.

From the programme elsewhere inserted it will be seen that Miss Burke and Prof. Blaisdell and E. Burleigh, of the Lancaster Springs High School, purpose visiting our citizens with a concert, on Friday evening next, at Palmetto Hall. These artists are eminently qualified to afford a pleasant entertainment, and we have no doubt our citizens will turn out and fill the hall.

THE CIRCUS.

On Wednesday next Mr. Eldred's circus and menagerie will open in Spartanburg. This sort of amusement is too popular and this circus (Robinson & Eldred's) too well known to require more than the bare announcement to fill its ample canvas with delighted visitors.

GLENN SPRINGS.

The advertisement will inform the public that this popular watering place is now open for company, under the management and supervision of Mr. Thomas Steen, of Greenville, who is well known as a good caterer, and has had large experience in hotel keeping. The House is in fine condition, and fully supplied with every adjunct to render a sojourn pleasant and healthful, and superadded to these things in a reduction in the rates of charge. We therefore hope to find Glenn Springs crowded with visitors this summer, satisfied that few places possess greater natural advantages, even apart from the medical virtues of the waters.

FOREIGN REVIEWS, &c.

We are indebted to Leonard Scott & Co., 79 Fulton street, New York, for the April No. of the Edinburgh Review and the May No. of good old Blackwood.

THE MAIL.

Our town is suffering very much from want of mail facilities. With three railroads less than fifty miles from us, we are yet the victims of the old one-horse system of tri-weekly mails on the main route, and as to Greenville, Laurens, and York, enjoy but semi-weekly connections—and sometimes not even that. We have long desired to find this subject into the ears of the Department, and recently made some inquiries preliminary to the execution of the purpose, when we were informed that that potent deity of mail mechanism is under promise to give us a daily mail after the 1st of July. We hope the promise will be redeemed. It is a crying shame that a place with two colleges and an increasing population—and where, we verily believe, the revenue has doubled within three years—should be compelled to submit to such niggard mail facilities. If we cannot have a daily mail from the head of the Spartanburg and Union Railroad, give us a tri-weekly mail, on alternate days, from Greenville. Laurens is out of the question, however it might suit individual interests to supply us from that point. We very much fear that private advantage has already had too much to do with this matter for the general good, and we protest against its further influence. Unless speedy relief is afforded, we shall advise the preparation of a strong memorial and remonstrance to the Department for relief, as we are satisfied that no other community would have submitted patiently to such a state of things.

REIDVILLE FEMALE HIGH SCHOOL.

The subscribers to the newly-projected school at Wakefield's Powder Springs, in connection with Nazareth Church, in compliance with the invitation of Rev. Mr. Reid, made public through the papers, met at the proposed location on Saturday, 6th instant, to enter upon incipient organization. A large attendance attested the deep interest felt in the result of this pious enterprise.

A Business Committee was raised, who reported many details connected with the new organization. Among these we may mention that the institution will be known as "The Reidville Female High School," in compliment to the Pastor of Nazareth Church, who displayed so much zeal in pushing the enterprise into a certainty. The Board of Trustees consists of thirty members—nine constituting a quorum. These were all chosen.

It was announced that \$10,000 had been subscribed, exclusive of the ground, which was generously donated by the Messrs. Wakefield, whereupon a Building Committee was appointed to determine on plans and proceed to make contracts for the immediate commencement of the work.

The energy, liberality, and public spirit which have marked this whole enterprise, from its inception to the present moment, warrants the most favorable augury of its early completion and future advantage.

EXHIBITION AT LESTER.

We stole off on Tuesday to be present at the late exhibition at Lester. Arriving late, as soon as we could shake off the dust of travel we went our way to the institution of the Messrs. Curtis, and found the commodious Hall filled to repletion with residents and visitors—male and female. We thought the attendance large, and were quite surprised on being told that in numbers it fell vastly short of former occasions. If this be so, we know not where they were stowed, for the accommodation of a seat was denied to us. The entertainments projected were tableaux, and instrumental and vocal music. The former were very pretty, well conceived, and the beauty of the fair representatives faultless. After the close of these performances the company adjourned to a discussion of another entertainment provided by the worthy principals, in the shape of a magnificent supper, to which we were admitted. About midnight, most reluctantly, the younger portion of the company of outsiders, were dismissed to their temporary homes, and shortly thereafter the inmates and the institution were left to their repose. We also sought our room at Perry's Hotel, and enjoyed a pleasant night's rest after the travel and incidents of the day.

By-the-way, our kind host keeps a capital house, a good table, and in ways on the alert to make his guests comfortable. If we could afford to summer it at a watering place, we think we should select Lester as a stop with Mr. Perry. The attractions of the place are many, and the citizens hospitable and intelligent.

MISTAKE.

We confess to a mistake in saying that the Carolina Times had failed to credit an item from the Spartan. The name of the wrong paper, by some abstraction, got into our pen. We beg pardon for the false accusation.

"Ion" of the Baltimore Sun writes that Lord Napier has informed our Government that the reported version of an island in the Bay of Panama is utterly unfounded.

SURVEY OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

During our recent trip to Limestone we were permitted to make the acquaintance of Oscar M. Lieber, Esq., whose camp is now there, and on whose invitation we visited it, in company with two friends. Mr. Lieber is now engaged in a mineralogical, geological, and agricultural survey of the State, under a resolution of the Legislature, passed in 1855. He has completed the survey of four districts—Chesterfield, Lancaster, Chester, and York—and is now engaged in Spartanburg, to be followed by Union. We are indebted to him for his Report to the Legislature on the work already done—a neat pamphlet of 136 pp., accompanied by explanatory drawings, and geognostic maps in colors of the four districts. The work in which Mr. Lieber is engaged must prove highly advantageous to the State. Already he has made discoveries of the existence of copper in York, Lancaster, and Chesterfield, and doubtless further explorations will bear him out in the opinion that cupiferous veins will be found in the whole up-country, though not equally productive—indeed, in some instances possessing only a scientific interest. We believe Mr. Lieber, in our district, will find a rich field for his scientific labors, and are equally sure that the advantages thence to result to our people will be of no questionable character. We suggest—though it seems almost gratuitous and superfluous—that our citizens lend him every facility in the prosecution of his work, by indicating every known mineral locality, from their more intimate topographical knowledge of the district.

DEATH OF O. H. WELLS.

With the regret of friendship we record the death of O. H. WELLS, of Greenville, which took place in Charleston, on the 31st ultimo. Mr. Wells was almost as well known in Spartanburg as in the place of his residence, from the fact that the Greenville Mountaineer—of which he was editor and proprietor for many years—circulated largely in this district, and was the medium for all its legal advertising. Failing health induced Mr. Wells to dispose of his interest in the Mountaineer, when he sought a pursuit promising more activity. With this view, for four or five years he was one of the mail agents on the Greenville railroad. His health not improving, but rather becoming more feeble, he left to his son the discharge of his duties for a brief time, and went to Charleston by the advice of his physician, and died a few days after his arrival. His remains were removed to Greenville for interment. We can join in the general testimony to the gentlemanly bearing and integrity of Mr. Wells in all the relations of life.

PERIODICALS.

We are in receipt of the third No. of Russell's Magazine, for June, from Mr. Archer, at the Bookstore, where subscribers and others may get their copies.

This number is equal to its predecessors, and contains the following table of contents:

The Aggressive Nature of Christianity; Stanzas; Isaac; A Year's Courtship; A Braid of Auburn Hair; Sunset; A Few Thoughts on Southern Civilization; On Pressing Certain Matters; Margaret Fuller; "One Too Many" Sonnet; Charles; Sonnet; The Southern Quarterly Review; Summer and Winter; Victor Hugo; Hope; Success in the World; Aurora Leigh; Editor's Note; Literary Notices.

We are glad to believe that Russell is making his way to the hearts of Southerners. The mind of the South has always depreated the circulation of Northern literature, because tinted with political and social heresies, and sighed for a congenial Southern substitute. Many efforts have been made to supply this desideratum; but, after a few years of sickly life, in most instances their owners were involved in debt and forced to suspension. The very oldest Southern publication—the Southern Literary Messenger—has repeatedly been on the eve of stopping; the Southern Quarterly—a work of great and acknowledged ability—has been suspended several times. That it has now a local habitation and a name is owing to the energy and wonderful resources of E. H. Britton, of Columbia, who has struggled to keep it afloat for the credit of the South, but how has he done it? By using his own independent means and accumulating a debt upon his shoulders, while heavy arrears for subscription are retained in the pockets of subscribers. Even the great abilities of Dr. J. H. Thornwell, and the payment of \$3 per page for all articles inserted in the Review, (and no better plan could be adopted for getting articles of real worth), have failed to awaken that interest and enlist that patronage in the Review which its publisher had a right to expect.

We hope it may prove otherwise with Russell, and that the Southern people will come up to its support in such numbers as will demonstrate that they mean to act on their conviction against Northern abolition literature.

KANSAS.

Gov. Walker has issued several manifestos to the people of Kansas. In one of these documents, as given by a correspondent of New York Herald, he seeks to induce the Free State party to vote at the June Election for Delegates to the Constitutional Convention, which the correspondent of the Herald thus condenses:

"The people of Kansas, in the State constitution which they are about to frame, (pro-slavery) must settle the slavery question for themselves. The President recognizes the validity of the local laws (pro-slavery) providing for the June election, &c., and in regard to the standard policy adopted by the free State party, Gov. Walker says:

"Throughout our whole Union, however, and wherever free government prevails, those who abhor the exercise of the right of suffrage are those who do not vote to net for them in that contingency, and the non-voters are as much bound under the law and the constitution, as well as by an overriding moral necessity, by the act of the majority of those who do vote, as though all had participated in the election."

Some of our contemporaries see in this and other points of these addresses reason to the South. It may indicate such purpose, but our optics cannot detect the flagitious aim from the phraseology.

It is evidently the intention of the administration and Gov. Walker to evolve a fair and deliberate expression of opinion from the whole people of Kansas as to the nature of the institutions under which they are to live, and we do not think there is anything wrong in such a purpose, provided no undue influence is exerted to bias the popular will. It has ever been the boast of the South to ask nothing not clearly founded in right and justice, and we hope she will never descend to those shifts of statesmanship which would make the continuation of such boast inconsistent with truth.

THE AIR-LINE RAILROAD.

We find in the Anderson Gazette the proceedings of certain persons, corporations of the Air-Line Railroad in South Carolina, held at Anderson, on the 28th ult., to take in the proceedings to accept the charter recently granted by the Legislature and fulfill its provisions. After formal acceptance, by resolution, books of subscription were ordered to be opened at certain places along the line of road, and commissioners appointed to receive subscribers. The books will open on the 1st Monday in July, and will remain open until the 1st Monday in September. It was further determined that as soon as a sufficient amount of stock shall be taken to give reasonable assurance of the construction of the road, the stockholders will be convened to elect a President and Directors. The invitation of the town council of Newberry to unite with them in holding a railroad convention at that place, on the 20th of July next, was accepted.

ENGLISH POLICY AT PANAMA.

In the British Parliament, Lord Palmerston has made an important speech, respecting the isthmus of Panama, in which he has declared the policy of the British Government towards New Granada, and defined the position of the British cabinet with regard to the matter. The English feel, he said, would lend a hand in holding a railroad convention at that place, on the 20th of July next, was accepted.

CORRESPONDENCE OF CAROLINA SPARTAN.

Alabama, May 18, 1857.

Messrs. Editors: I see in the Spartan that there is much discussion in the Palmetto State with regard to a penitentiary. Your judges, Governor, &c., appear to be in contention for it. And it seems that when the wisdom of a had advocates any matter it must be right.

I live in a country where there is a penitentiary, and have lived—yes, raised—in South Carolina, under its rigid laws, from the whipping post to the gallows; and now I am satisfied which system of punishment has the greatest bearing towards expense, safety, and morality. I lived in Georgia twenty years, where there is a penitentiary; I have been living in Alabama nearly fourteen years; and lived in South Carolina nearly twenty years; and of course I have seen the good and bad effects of the institutions that are intended to enforce safety, punish criminals, and bring about morality and honesty. In all the lands in which I have lived, I am satisfied that in a country where there is a penitentiary there is the least morality, the least regard for the laws, and I think the greatest rascals. Still, there are thousands of the most honorable men and real moralists. But where there is the least disposition in any one to act on roguery, the penitentiary is no barrier. There have come under my own knowledge enough to satisfy me.

There is hardly a court in my knowledge but sends to the State's prison more or less convicts annually or biennially. At Lafayette, Alabama, they will send convicts for stealing and for murdering; and before the next court convenes the jail is crowded with criminals for the same diabolical offenses. Last year there were one or two sent this year there are four more in prison for murder and stealing. The country is generally so; and, from the best information I can receive, in the statistical accounts of all the States where there are State prisons, this is the general result. There is a man in the jail at Lafayette, Alabama, who was put in the State prison three or four years ago for stealing a horse. He served out his term; and, as soon as he could get back, he stole the same horse, and will go back again for the same or a longer time. This is very often the case. This does not look much like reformation and christianization. They have regular Sabbath preaching, and every honest endeavor to bring about a reformation, and with but very little good, if any.

With regard to revenue, or income to a State, my impression is it is but quite limited, and very likely otherwise—at least of the State prison of Alabama.

Some eight or ten years ago, to my best recollection, the prison brought the State of Alabama nearly \$100,000 in debt, and, to remedy the evil, what did the Legislature of the State do? They rented or leased it out at \$5,000 per year, or \$5,000 per year—I forget which, but I believe the first statement is correct. Does this look much like revenue? It seems to me such drags will keep money from rusting in our pockets. It also makes me think the South Carolina laws should be enforced, and break their infernal necks, or keep them in the prison for one hundred and fifty years—please God they should live so long. Furthermore, occasionally an honest and inoffensive man has to go, who by accident is caught in an unexpected snare, by the hand and tongue of the base and rascally class, who will stick to their brother's scoundrel.

Was not John A. Murrell, and his diabolical organization, in a land of penitentiaries, where there have been more atrocious cases of murder of the innocent, robbery, stealing of negroes, &c., than in any land where hanging is instituted to put an end to crime. South Carolina has never been so bothered by murderers, stealing of negroes, &c., as State-prison countries. My impression is, if it was left to a vote of the people of Alabama, they would do away with it, as they have seen its fruits. Capital punishment is quite a hard-looking case; but it seems to me that it is the shortest way to execute and get rid of those wretches, in whom there is no hope of reform but get worse and worse—steal more and more when opportunity is presented.

If there were any hope of a change being wrought upon such characters by a State prison, it would look more reasonable; but they nearly always get worse and worse. They feel degraded—they feel that the finger of scorn is pointed at them—and they think that their case will be made no worse by a reputation. So they pitch in, and steal again. I am satisfied that no man could remain about who had served a term in the prison for an offense and roguish case. I should feel that some might be worth missing and something stolen. I do not know of the first convict, nor have I heard of one, who had embraced the christian religion, except John A. Murrell—who says he reformed and became an exemplary christian. "I don't know." If they do not see their error while serving a term in that bottomless place, and embrace religion there, it is rather a bad egg when they get out. Reason teaches that it corrupts the feelings, by knowing their character is gone while they live in the world at large and steal, and not be found out. They can pretend to be fine christians, but let the thing be developed, and I assure you their consciences burn them too deep to ever look up among humankind.

R. Spectally, W. L. J.

There was some years ago, and the subject is still occasionally alluded to by the judges, grand jurors, and the press—Eds. Spartan.

SPUNKY—CONFLICT OF JURISDICTION.

Under the extradition treaty between France and the United States, Grelot, one of the French railroad swindlers, was demanded by his Government. Marshal Rynders, in whose charge he was, had a warrant placed in his hands, requiring him to put Grelot on board the Arago, then about to leave for Liverpool. A fuss was kicked up by the Frenchman and his friends, but Rynders held them at bay. Finally a writ of habeas corpus was issued by the supreme court of New York, but was not served until the steamer was off with the prisoner. When informed of the writ, Isidat said:

"If the writ had been served upon him, which was not the case, he would have paid no more attention to it than 'Pugie Joe' had issued it. What did he care for the supreme order? He was acting under the authority of the United States, and what were the orders of the State Court to him? He repudiated them. He had a little room upstairs, and if any one of them fellows of olders cut up any of their shins around him he would kick them up there."

We think this impudent interference of State courts in questions solely within the jurisdiction of Federal authority should be put down in some summary way, and if the United States marshals would only act with becoming decision, as Rynders did, we should get along all the better.

A novel feature was introduced into the annual celebration of the Meagher Guards, Charleston, as we learn from the Courier. The body guards of Fort Randall to Fort Leavenworth, the Colonel of the Second Infantry to detach three companies of that Regiment, two to occupy Fort Snelling, and one for Leavenworth.

The fifth Regiment to be replaced in Florida by volunteers, who are to proceed to Jefferson Barracks, and there await further orders. The Tenth Infantry are ordered to Fort Leavenworth, eight companies at once, and two to leave at Fort Snelling, and as soon as they are relieved by the companies from the Second Regiment.

The above movements will be made with the least possible delay. The military orders were sent by telegraph to New York and Leavenworth.

In the late election in Virginia the Democratic have carried every Congressional District, and the popular majority will be over 50,000.

WHAT GENERAL WALKER SAYS.

The New Orleans Daily Times gives a graphic account of the enthusiastic reception of Gen. Wm. Walker, the hero of Nicaragua. Upon landing, a constant ovation was given him at every stop from the levee to the St. Charles Hotel. The reporter says:

"After the lapse of some time, during which persons were advancing and retiring, the General and the writer drew aside, and, seated together, attempted to enter into conversation; but it was in vain. People at each moment would come forward, one would attempt a speech, and all would wish to say a word. A happy thought was hit on by a few lights were placed in the inner chamber, and in a minute afterwards we were closeted alone with Gen. Walker."

"Successively he informed us of his adventures in Rivas since the time when the last news came from that quarter. He and his men, numbering five hundred, in a state of action, were strongly fortified in that city on the 25th of March, when they were attacked by the enemy, some 2,500 strong. Four or five hours' sharp fighting took place, and then the General's men, with a loss of more than 400 men, the Americans behind barbed wire, and the lost but three killed and about the same wounded. All passed quietly in the city from this time until the 11th of April, when the enemy, who had received reinforcements from Guatemala and Leon, sent a force of about 1,700 men to attack the General. The fighting only lasted until 8 o'clock in the morning. Again the foe was driven back, and with a loss of 150. The Americans, from their superior skill and position, scarcely sustained any injury."

"This was the General's last battle with the foe. There were several native soldiers with him who were continually hearing from their countrymen. Each report showed that the Costa Ricans were becoming more disorganized, and the General was becoming more certain that they would soon retire from the country they had invaded. Thus things went on until the 25th of April, when Captain Davis, of the United States ship-of-war St. Mary's, sent an officer to the city to offer to the General, and to carry from the place. This was accepted, and many of the most useless of the men retired with them. The absence of all these men made him, from strength, more confident, and others more leaders. His provisions were not over abundant, and less month to feel was also a consideration."

"On the 30th of April, Capt. Davis again sent to him, informing him that the first of the failure of Col. Lockridge, and adding that his cause in Rivas was hopeless, and it would be well for him to take shelter on board the St. Mary's. The General was unwilling to listen to this counsel, but, from strength, more confident, and others more leaders. His provisions were not over abundant, and less month to feel was also a consideration."

"Finding that he had no opponent to deal with that he had not counted on, the General had all his guns disabled much to the annoyance of Capt. Davis, and leaving his sick and wounded to the care of their countrymen, he ordered the protection of the American flag, he, in company with his staff of six men, proceeded, some mounted, some on foot, to St. Juan del Sur, a distance of twenty miles. This was on the evening of the first of May. The journey was accomplished in four days, and soon after night-fall they were on board the ship. The ship bore officers have an interview with Capt. Davis, who returned to inform him that the Captain was peremptory in his tone, and had threatened to seize the Nicaraguan schooner Granada, if opposition to his wishes were made. The General, however, did not heed this, and he had not counted on, the General had all his guns disabled much to the annoyance of Capt. 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